

The Intelligencer.

Travelers' Register.

ARRIVAL OF TRAINS.	DEPARTURE OF TRAINS.
U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.	U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.
U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.	U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.
U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.	U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.

POST OFFICE REGISTER.

Hours at which mails are due and close at the Post Office in this city. Prepared in accordance with the latest time tables on the railroads.

MAILS TO BE SENT.	MAILS TO BE RECEIVED.
U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.	U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.
U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.	U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.
U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.	U. & O. R. R. 6:30 A. M. 11:30 P. M.

THE INAUGURATION BALL.

(Special Correspondence of the Intelligencer.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 5, 1873.

Ever since I returned home this morning, in a half-frozen condition, have I been endeavoring to make up my mind as to whether I should call the grand Inauguration Ball, of which so much was expected, a success, or not. The papers this morning say it was a success; but candor compels me to say that I doubt if it was. I am, I am sure, it was not. I hate to say it, but it is the fact; the grand Inauguration Ball was not a success, and could not possibly have been under the circumstances.

Now I have told you the truth, and the whole truth; perhaps your readers are disappointed, after having read all about the magnificent preparation that had been made; but they are no more disappointed than I am myself, and a good many others besides me.

The reason is obvious: it was too cold. Balls of all kinds depend too much upon the spirit dressing and "get up" of the ladies of the company to be attractive, to even approach success when it becomes necessary for the fair ones to promenade in their furs and wraps, and for the gentlemen to wear their hats and overcoats in the lancers, or "amidst the mazy whirls" of the waltz. And that was precisely what was the matter last night. A cold, icy, ball-room, gaudily decorated though it may be, is among the last of places to enjoy oneself in, in the world. Fancy yourself trying to make love with the teeth chattering in your mouth with cold, and your fair partner's delicate frame shivering with a chill. D-d-lightful-fall-is-it-t-t-t! No, thank you, the "Blue Danube" and "Wine, Woman and Song" lose their charms under such circumstances (unless the former is hot and spicy), and next to a lecture on comely before an empty auditorium. I know of no more cheerless or comfortless sight in the world than a half-empty ball-room, with the temperature some degrees below zero.

It is, however, but just to say, that for this deplorable state of affairs, no one was to blame, except, perhaps the weather bureau. It is true that if the price of tickets had been less exorbitant than it was, there might have been a better attendance, notwithstanding the weather; for the splendid supper, and the opportunity to get a close view of the President and his family, would have attracted many who yesterday stayed away. But few people can afford to pay twenty dollars for an evening's pleasure of this character; and it is believed that if the price of admission had been only half of that, the attendance would have been almost trebled, without detracting from the exclusiveness of the affair in any material degree. Upon this point, only the committee made, perhaps, a mistake—as no one could possibly foresee, or would have made preparations for the intense cold on the day and evening of March 4th,—one of the coldest days and nights of the entire season so far the coldest.

As it was, half the space allotted in the immense building would have been fully equal to accommodate the guests when the ball was at its height, with room to spare. There was plenty of space, and the dancers and promenaders certainly had no room to complain in that respect. Nor was there any cause for complaint as far as the supper was concerned; on the contrary, it was the most beautiful and best managed supper I remember ever to have seen on an occasion of such a character. Champagne of the choicest brands, and claret punch, flowed freely, and all the delicacies in and out of season were provided in unlimited abundance. Yet, strange as it may appear, plain, hot tea and coffee and chocolate, were in greater demand than the sparkling cognac and tumblers of punch; it was the informal cold that interfered with everything.

The President arrived about half past eleven o'clock, accompanied by his family and Cabinet. After a short stay in their private rooms, they were escorted to the platform erected at one end of the hall, by Governor Cooke and Mr. Alexander R. Shepherd, of the Committee, where a levee took place, quite a number of the guests present paying their personal respects to the President and shaking hands with him. The foreign ministers were represented in force; but few of the ladies were present, on account of the cold and the delay in the receipt of their invitations.

The Presidential party withdrew from the platform, which, happening to be at the north, or cold, end of the hall, was not a plan particularly calculated to promote comfort. The ladies of the distinguished party nearly all wore their ermine capes and wraps, and but little could be seen of the gorgeous dresses and the jeweled ornaments they were supposed to conceal. Happily, all the retiring rooms and the President's private apartments were heated by steam coils, which it was first proposed to extend

throughout the building; but alas! that plan was abandoned. The supper provided for the invited guests was everything that could be desired; and with the choice wines and liquors, seemed to be fully appreciated. Shortly after the supper, the party retired, without any speech-making or toasting having been attempted, and about three o'clock the ball broke up, and everybody hurried to their homes to seek under their bed-coverings the warmth and comfort they had been unable to find in the ball-room. And thus came to an end the Ball attending the second Inauguration of President Grant—the most sumptuous and elaborately prepared Inauguration Ball on record—and the coldest.

The weather to-day having moderated considerably, the prospects are that the grand masquerade ball which will be given to-night in Inauguration Hall will be more of a success, though, probably, less distinguished, as the price of admission is only five dollars. Should the attendance be good, it will, to some extent make up for the heavy pecuniary losses of the grand ball, which cannot fall much short of ten, or perhaps even fifteen, thousand dollars. It is also contemplated to give a grand promenade concert to-morrow evening, when the last opportunity will be afforded our citizens and strangers in our city of visiting the gorgeously decorated hall.

Early next week it will be torn down, the materials of which it is made will be used for other less elevated (and less cold, it is to be hoped) and more prosaic purposes; and Inauguration Hall of 1873, with its millions of raw, fried, scolloped and pickled oysters; its hundred weights of salmon and boned turkey; its hoards of claret punch, tea, coffee, &c., and last, but not least, its gay anticipations and cold reality, will be no more forever.

Last night the avenue was handsomely illuminated by calcium lights, and the fireworks were on a most elaborate scale. The streets were thronged, and the people managed to keep comparatively warm by brisk walking or trotting, and occasional "inaugurations" in restaurants and bar-rooms, all of which were crowded to their utmost capacity during the entire evening and night. This forenoon the President will review some of the visiting military organizations, most of which will return home to-night and to-morrow morning; and with the masquerade to-night, and the promenade concert to-morrow, the inauguration festivities will fairly come to a close.

In a day or two you will receive my last inauguration letter, which will be a general wind up of the whole affair. The city is still, to a great extent, in its holiday attire, and to-day the streets are crowded with pedestrians and gorgeous turn-outs. The avenue presents a most animated appearance, and the music of the military bands is heard almost everywhere. It is difficult to realize the fact that to-day is not a great national holiday; for everybody seems to be out sight-seeing, and all the public buildings and departments are thronged with visitors, but by to-morrow, I suppose, we will fall into the old routine of everyday-life, and Richard will be himself again once more.

Yours truly,
C.

Closing Scenes of the Inauguration.
(Special Correspondence of the Intelligencer.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., March 7.

The universal, and very pardonable exclamation to-day is, "Oh, why wasn't it this weather on Inauguration Day!" Why not, indeed. For to-day is perfectly lovely, mild and balmy weather—just the sort of a thing for inauguration displays and balls, and it had only been the fourth of March to-day—but it is of no use wishing now, when it is all over; so I will go on to give you a short description of the closing scenes of the Inauguration.

The carnival on Wednesday evening, in Inauguration Hall, though on a much lesser scale than the grand ball on the fourth, was, comparatively, more of a success. Upwards of two thousand people were present, the greater part arrayed in fantastic masks and costumes, and all seemed to enjoy themselves to their heart's content. The evening was not so piercing cold as on the previous night, and the vast room was comfortable. The music was the same as had been provided for inauguration night and the supper was pretty much in the same style, too, though, of course, less elaborate. The carnival and mirth-making was kept up till quite a late—rather early—hour; and it was certainly one of the gayest assemblages of the kind of the season.

Yesterday evening, the Promenade concert came off, and the tickets having been placed as low as fifty cents a piece (children half price), the attendance was immense. The vast hall was thronged with ladies and gentlemen, promenade to the tunes of favorite military airs and marches, and it is estimated that not less than eight thousand promenaders were present. An "exhibition drill" was thrown in gratuitously, by one of our military organizations; for the elation of those present. The universal verdict was that the concert was a great success—so much so that it was decided to repeat it to-morrow (Saturday), when a promenade matinee will be given, which promises a good attendance, especially by ladies and children. On Monday, the immense building will be demolished, and "Inauguration Hall" will be a thing of the past.

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